

MISSOURI
DEPARTMENT OF
NATURAL RESOURCES

Mike Kehoe
Governor

Kurt U. Schaefer
Director

February 10, 2025

NOTIFICATION OF INTENT TO ADOPT

**United States Department of Agriculture Rural Development's Categorical Exclusion
by Missouri Department of Natural Resources
for the Gravois Arm Phase VI Sewer Improvements
Project No. C295715-03**

The Missouri Department of Natural Resources' Financial Assistance Center has enclosed the prepared adoption of the United States Department of Agriculture Rural Development's (USDA RD) categorical exclusion determination regarding the proposed Phase VI Sewer Extension project for the Gravois Arm Sewer District. This notification outlines the start of the public notice period and a copy of the intent to adopt document providing additional background on the project and the consultation process between the agencies. The environmental determination being adopted meets all requirements set forth by USDA RD in 7 CFR 1970.54(a)(4), including outreach to interested agencies and the public.

This notification does not require a response, but if you wish to provide any comments regarding the environmental determination and its adoption, please do so by February 20, 2025.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact Josh Brown, project engineer, at DNR.SRFPublicNotice@dnr.mo.gov, or Department of Natural Resources, Financial Assistance Center, P.O. Box 176, Jefferson City, MO 65102-0176. Thank you.

Sincerely,

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE CENTER

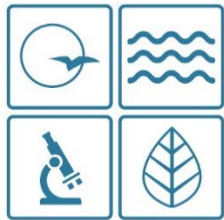
Lauren Graessle, P.E.
Director

LG:jbc

Enclosure

c: Joshua Brown, P.E., Department of Natural Resources, Financial Assistance Center
Shane Graupman, Department of Natural Resources, Financial Assistance Center





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TO: ALL INTERESTED GOVERNMENT AGENCIES AND PUBLIC GROUPS

In accordance with procedures for environmental review found at 40 CFR 1501.4(e), the Missouri Department of Natural Resources (MoDNR) has performed our review on the proposed action below:

PROJECT INFORMATION:

Project Identification: Gravois Arm Phase VI Sewer Improvements Project

Applicant: Gravois Arm Sewer District

Project No.: C295715-03

City: Gravois Mills

County: Morgan

State: Missouri

Total Project Amount: \$6,376,050.00

Total Clean Water State Revolving Fund Eligible Costs: \$6,376,050.00

- Potential Loan: \$3,376,050.00
- Potential Grant: \$3,000,000.00

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

The Gravois Arm Phase VI Sewer Improvements Project intends to connect approximately 350 additional homes to the Gravois Arm Sewer District, located in Morgan County, Missouri. The proposed work entails the construction of approximately 53,750 feet of force main, 26,025 feet of service lines, and 210 grinder stations to create an extension of the district's pressure collection system that will connect existing on-site treatment systems at these residences, which is expected to have a positive impact on the water quality of the nearby Lake of the Ozarks. The work being done is primarily within the existing rights-of-way of utility corridors along public roads.



CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION INFORMATION:

On February 9, 2023, the United States Department of Agriculture Rural Development (USDA RD) provided a Categorical Exclusion for the Gravois Arm Sewer District Phase VI Sewer Improvements Project. The Categorical Exclusion determination was made using 7 CFR 1970.54(a)(4), covering “Infrastructure to support utility systems such as water or wastewater facilities; headquarters, maintenance, equipment storage, or microwave facilities; and energy management systems. This does not include proposals that either create a new or relocate an existing discharge to or a withdrawal from surface or ground waters or cause substantial increase in a withdrawal or discharge at an existing site.” In compliance with National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) regulations at 40 CFR 1501.4(e), MoDNR seeks to adopt this Categorical Exclusion determination for this project.

AGENCY CONSULTATION:


As a part of the environmental review process with USDA RD, an environmental information document was drafted, outlining the potential impacts of the project for the surrounding environment, as well as providing clearance letters from various agencies with potential interest in the impacts of the project. This document was developed for USDA RD, but utilized a template created by MoDNR and, as a result, includes all the documentation required for an environmental determination by MoDNR. Given that the environmental information document did not indicate any significant negative environmental impacts or any adverse opinions from the contacted agencies, MoDNR finds that the purposes of the environmental review process for MoDNR funded projects are met by the determination provided by USDA RD.

Since the Categorical Exclusion provided by USDA RD meets the requirements needed for adoption, MoDNR consulted with USDA RD to ensure that adoption of the Categorical Exclusion was agreed upon by both agencies. On December 16, 2024, USDA RD responded that they agreed with the adoption of their Categorical Exclusion by MoDNR. Additionally, it was noted that no extraordinary circumstances were found by USDA RD in their review of the project environmental information, which MoDNR also agrees with, requiring no additional requirements or action as a result.

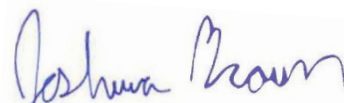
This action is taken based on a careful review of the documentation on file in the office of the Missouri Department of Natural Resources' Financial Assistance Center at 1101 Riverside Drive, Jefferson City, MO 65101. These are available for public review upon request Monday-Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. This agency will not take any administrative action on this project for at least 10 calendar days from the date of this document. Persons wishing to comment on the above environmental decision may submit comments to Joshua Brown, P.E., of the Department of Natural Resources, Financial Assistance Center, P.O. Box 176, Jefferson City, MO 65102-0176, during this period. E-mail comments will be accepted at the following address: DNR.SRFPublicNotice@dnr.mo.gov. Please include the project name and number in all comment letters. Thank you.

Sincerely,

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE CENTER



Lauren Graessle, P.E.
Director



Joshua Brown, P.E.
Technical Reviewer

LG:jbc

Attachments

February 10, 2025

Date

DISTRIBUTION

Missouri Department of Conservation
P.O. Box 180
Jefferson City, MO 65102

Conservation Federation of Missouri
728 West Main Street
Jefferson City, MO 65101

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
c/o Carter Tharp – WWPD/SRFB
Email: Tharp.carter@epamail.epa.gov

Missouri Department of Natural Resources
Missouri Geological Survey
Environmental Geology Section
P.O. Box 250
Rolla, MO 65402-0250

Missouri Department of Natural Resources
Division of State Parks
State Historic Preservation Office
P.O. Box 176
Jefferson City, MO 65102-0176

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Ecological Services
101 Park DeVillie Drive, Suite A
Columbia, MO 65203-0057

National Park Service
Midwest Region
mwro_compliance@nps.gov

USDA Rural Development
601 Business Loop 70 West
235 Parkade Center
Columbia, MO 65203

Gilmore and Bell, P.C.
c/o Shannon Walsh Creighton
One Metropolitan Square
211 North Broadway, Suite 2000
St. Louis, MO 63102-2741

SRF File C295715-03

Gravois Arm Sewer District
c/o David Taylor, Chairman
28982 Harbour Road
Gravois Mills, MO 65037

Alpha Engineering and Surveying
c/o Jared Wheaton, P.E.
3048 Hwy 52
Eldon, MO 65026

Missouri Department of Natural Resources
Central Field Office
P.O. Box 176
Jefferson City, MO 65102-0176

Morgan County Statesman
104 West Jasper Street
P.O. Box 348
Versailles, MO 65084

Environmental Protection Agency
Office of Federal Activities
Ariel Rios (2252A)
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, DC 20004

Council of Environmental Quality
722 Jackson Place, N.W.
Washington, DC 20503

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Missouri State Regulatory Office
Kansas City District
515 East High Street #202
Jefferson City, MO 65101

Lake of the Ozarks Council of Local Governments
76 Chestnut Avenue, Suite 101
P.O. Box 3553
Camdenton, MO 65020

Lewis Rice
c/o David Brown
600 Washington Avenue, Suite 2500
St. Louis, MO 63101

Apache Tribe of Oklahoma
c/o Darrin Cisco
Tribe Historic Preservation Officer
E-mail: darrin.cisco@apachetribe.org

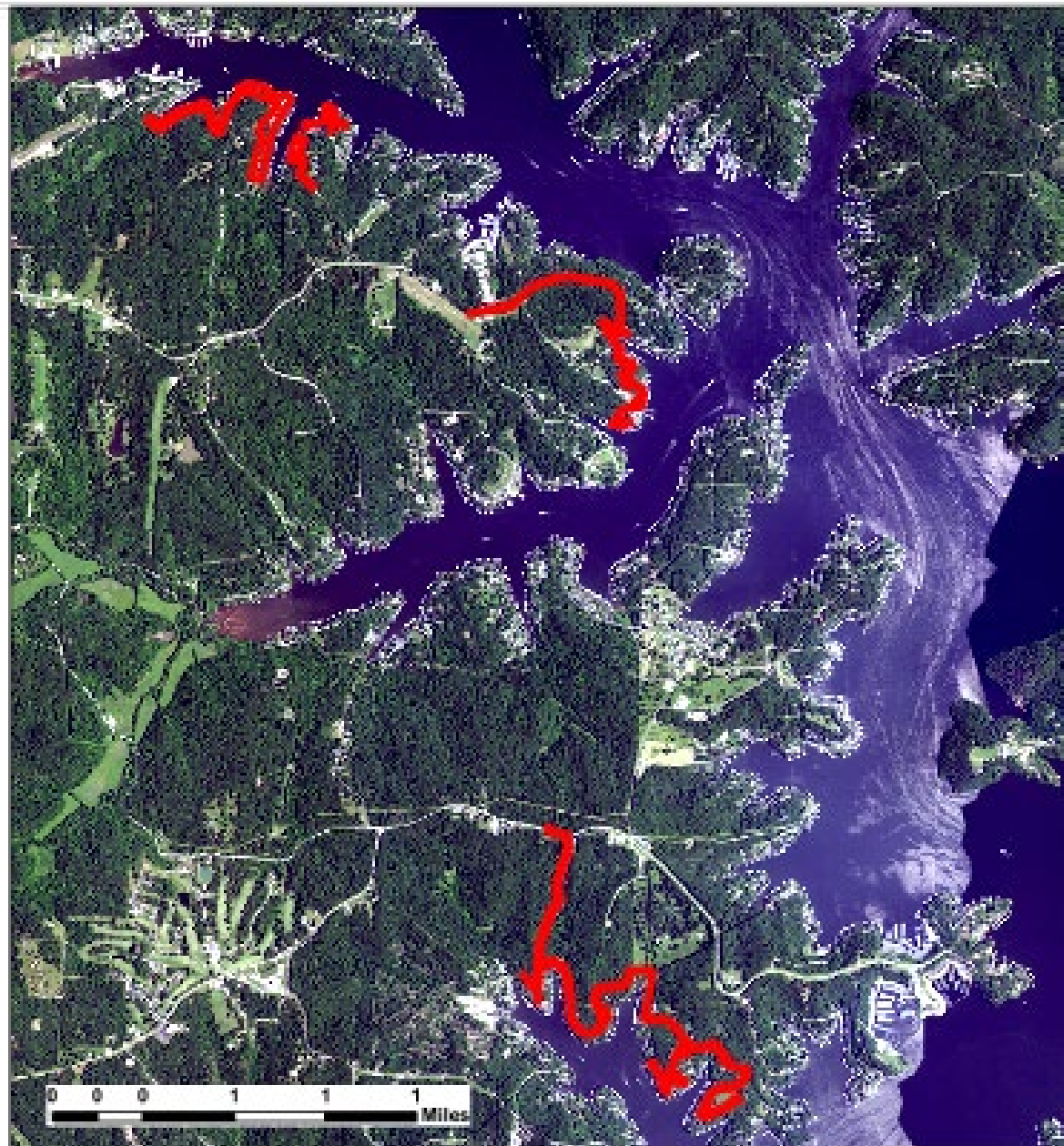
Kaw Indian Nation of Oklahoma
c/o Emily Douglas
E-mail: epadir@kawnation.com

Miami Tribe of Oklahoma
c/o Logan York (THPO)
E-mail: thpo@miamination.com

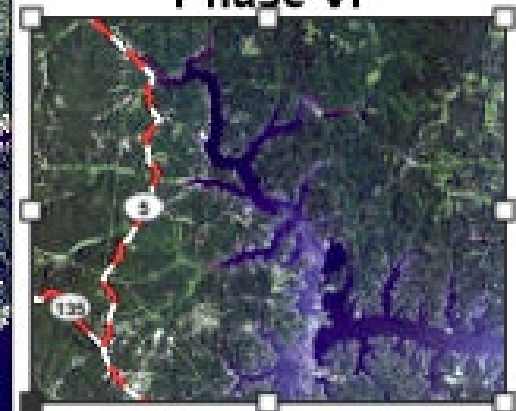
Osage Nation
c/o Dr. Andrea A. Hunter (THPO)
Osage Historic Preservation Office
Email: s106@osagenation-nsn.gov

Ponca Tribe of Nebraska
c/o Theresa Foley
Tribe Historic Preservation Officer
E-mail: tfoley@poncatribene.org

Ponca Tribe of Oklahoma
c/o Liana Hesler (THPO)
E-mail: 106notifications@ponca-nsn.gov



Gravois Arm Sewer District Phase VI



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